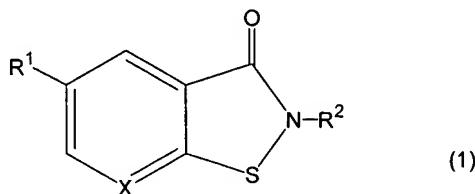


AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Without prejudice or disclaimer, this listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Claims 1-4. (Cancelled)

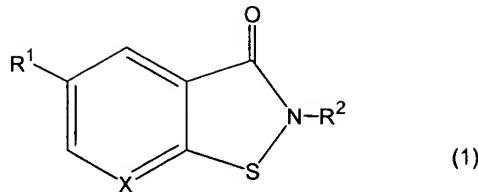
5. (Previously Presented) A method of inhibiting a urease activity, which comprises administering to a person in need thereof a urease inhibitor which contains, as an active ingredient, an isothiazole compound represented by the general formula (1):



wherein R¹ represents a hydrogen atom or an amino group, R² represents a hydrogen atom, a lower alkyl group, or an acetyl group, and X represents a carbon atom or a nitrogen atom or an adduct salt thereof.

6. (Previously Presented) The method of inhibiting a urease activity of claim 5, wherein the isothiazole compound is at least one selected from the group consisting of 1,2-benzoisothiazol-3(2H)-one, isothiazolo[5,4-b]pyridin-3(2H)-one, 5-amino-1,2-benzoisothiazol-3(2H)-one, N-methyl-1,2-benzoisothiazol-3(2H)-one and N-acetyl-1,2-benzoisothiazol-3(2H)-one.

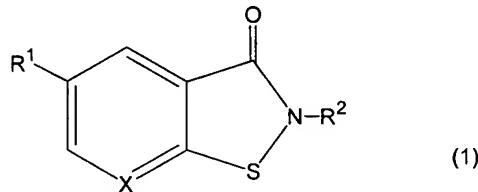
7. (Previously Presented) A method of inhibiting a *Helicobacter pylori* activity, which comprises administering to a person in need thereof an anti-*Helicobacter pylori* agent which contains, as an active ingredient, an isothiazole compound represented by the general formula (1):



wherein R¹ represents a hydrogen atom or an amino group, R² represents a hydrogen atom, a lower alkyl group, or an acetyl group, and X represents a carbon atom or a nitrogen atom or an adduct salt thereof.

8. (Previously Presented) The method of inhibiting a *Helicobacter pylori* activity of claim 7, wherein the isothiazole compound is at least one selected from the group consisting of 1,2-benzoisothiazol-3(2H)-one, isothiazolo[5,4-b]pyridin-3(2H)-one, 5-amino-1,2-benzoisothiazol-3(2H)-one, N-methyl-1,2-benzoisothiazol-3(2H)-one and N-acetyl-1,2-benzoisothiazol-3(2H)-one.

9. (New) A method of treating gastric mucosa injury caused by urease, which comprises administering to a person in need thereof an isothiazole compound represented by the general formula (1):



wherein R¹ represents a hydrogen atom or an amino group, R² represents a hydrogen atom, a lower alkyl group, or an acetyl group, and X represents a carbon atom or a nitrogen atom or an adduct salt thereof.

10. (New) A method according to claim 9, wherein the isothiazole compound is at least one selected from the group consisting of 1,2-benzoisothiazol-3(2H)-one,

isothiazolo[5,4-b]pyridin-3(2H)-one, 5-amino-1,2-benzoisothiazol-3(2H)-one, N-methyl-1,2-benzoisothiazol-3(2H)-one and N-acetyl-1,2-benzoisothiazol-3(2H)-one.

11. (New) A method according to claim 9, wherein the gastric mucosa injury comprises chronic gastritis.

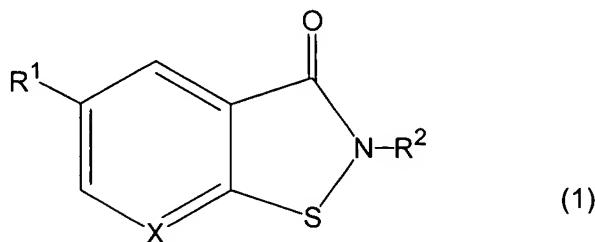
12. (New) A method according to claim 9, wherein the gastric mucosa injury comprises gastroduodenal ulcer.

13. (New) A method according to claim 9, comprising administering the isothiazole compound in a daily dose of from about 0.1 to 100 mg/kg.

14. (New) A method according to claim 9, further comprising administering at least one additional pharmacologically active ingredient chosen from antibiotics, nitronidazole antiprotazoal agents, antiulcer drugs, and proton pump inhibitors.

15. (New) A method according to claim 9, wherein the urease comprises urease produced by *Helicobacter pylori*.

16. (New) A method of treating gastric mucosa injury caused by *Helicobacter pylori*, which comprises administering to a person in need thereof an isothiazole compound represented by the general formula (1):



wherein R¹ represents a hydrogen atom or an amino group, R² represents a hydrogen atom, a lower alkyl group, or an acetyl group, and X represents a carbon atom or a nitrogen atom or an adduct salt thereof.